

Message Text

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USIE-00 INRE-00 CPR-01 SSC-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 /055 W
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O R 271830Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4543
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USMISSION USNATO
USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL
COMUSFORAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 LISBON 0721

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PO
SUBJECT: NEW CABINET: PERSONALITIES AND POLIES

REF: LISBON 698 (DTG 271050Z JAN 78)

1. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON CABINET MEMBERS ANNOUNCED
JAN 26 FOLLOWS:

--MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO, ANTONIO DE ALMEIDA
SANTOS (PS): THE CURRENT MINISTER OF JUSTICE, ALMEIDA
SANTOS, 52, IS A LEGAL EXPERT AND AN EXCELLENT ADMINISTRATOR.
IN HIS NEW POSITION, HE WILL ACT AS LIAISON BETWEEN SOARES
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AND THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, SERVE AS LEGAL ADVISOR AND
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR, AND REVIEW MATTERS REFERRED
TO SOARES FOR ACTION. ALMEIDA SANTOS HELD POSTS IN
SEVERAL PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENTS AFTER LEAVING A SUCCESSFUL
LAW PRACTICE IN MOZAMBIQUE, WHERE HE ACTIVELY OPPOSED
PORTUGUESE COLONIAL POLICY.

--MINISTER OF DEFENSE - COL. MARIO FIRMINO MIGUEL
(IND): FIRMINO MIGUEL, 46, RETAINS THE DEFENSE PORTFOLIO.
HE IS CLOSE TO PRESIDENT EANES, AS WELL AS TO MARIO SOARES.
HE IS A CAPABLE, HIGHLY RESPECTED OFFICER WHO IS DEDICATED TO
RESTRUCTURING THE PORTUGUESE ARMED FORCES BASED UPON A
NATO MISSION.

--MINISTER OF FINANCES AND PLANNING - VICTOR CONSTANCIO
(PS): A 1972 IVP GRANTEE, CONSTANCIO, 34, IS CURRENTLY
A VICE GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF PORTUGAL, AND THE LEADING
PS ECONOMIC PLANNER. HE LED THE GOP COMMISSION
NEGOTIATING PORTUGUESE ENTRY INTO THE EC AND PARTICIPATED
ACTIVELY IN IMF NEGOTIATIONS. CONSTANCIO ACCEPTS THE
NECESSITY OF AN EFFECTIVE STABILIZATION PROGRAM. AS
MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PLANNING, CONSTANCIO HEADS THE
GOP'S NEW ECONOMIC TEAM. CONSTANCIO HAS TOLD US HE PLANS
TO IMPLEMENT A RATHER SEVERE PROGRAM DESIGNED TO MOVE THE
ECONOMY TOWARD EXTERNAL BALANCE. THE SPEED WITH WHICH HE
MOVES WILL DEPEND, HOWEVER, UPON THE LEVEL OF POLITICAL
SUPPORT FOR HIS PROGRAM

MINISTER OF INTERIOR - DR. OLIVEIRA E SILVA (PS):
OLIVEIRA E SILVA, 54, IS CURRENTLY THE CIVIL GOVERNOR
OF VIANA DO CASTELO. A CONSERVATIVE SOCIALIST, HE HAS
BEEN A SUCCESSFUL LAWYER FOR MANY YEARS IN HIS HOME
TOWN. HE IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE BEST NORTHERN GOVERNORS,
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COMMANDING WIDE RESPECT. OLIVEIRA E SILVA CAN BE EXPECTED
TO DO HIS HOMEWORK, BUT MAY HAVE TROUBLE ADJUSTING TO THE
LISBON BUREAUCRACY. HIS SELECTION WILL BE WELL RECEIVED
IN THE NORTH.

--MINISTER OF JUSTICE - JOSE DIAS DOS SANTOS PAIS
(PS): SANTOS PAIS, 55, WAS BORN IN MOZAMBIQUE. AS A
YOUNG MAN, HE WAS ACTIVE IN YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS IN PORTUGAL.
A JUDGE, HE HAS HELD VARIOUS POSTS IN THE BANK OF PORTUGAL
AND THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. AS SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE
PS GOVERNMENT, HE WORKED DIRECTLY FOR JUSTICE MINISTER
ALMEIDA SANTOS. HE HELPED DRAFT MAJOR CHANGES IN THE CIVIL
CODE.

--MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS - VITOR SA MACHADO
(CDS): CURRENTLY VICE PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
SA MACHADO, 45, IS THE FOURTH-RANKING CENTER DEMOCRAT.
WITHIN THE PARTY HE IS REGARDED MORE AS AN ANALYST OF
NATIONAL MOOD AND POLITICAL CLIMATE THAN AS A PARTY
STRATEGIST. SA MACHADO IS A FORMER ADMINISTRATOR OF THE
BULBENKIAN FOUNDATION AND DIRECTOR OF THE PORTUGUESE OIL
REFINING AND DISTRIBUTING FIRM, SONAP. AN INTELLECTUAL,

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
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SA MACHADO SPEAKS FIVE LANGUAGES. BECAUSE SOARES TENDS
TO BE HIS OWN FOREIGN MINISTER, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
SOARES AND SA MACHADO COULD BECOME A TOUCHSTONE OF
PS/CDS RELATIONS.

--MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE - MARIO
SOTTOMAYOR CARDIA (PS): CARDIA, 37, IS A HOLDOVER.
APPOINTED IN A 1976 CABINET SHAKE-UP,
CARDIA REESTABLISHED SOME ORDER IN THE CHAOTIC EDUCATIONAL
SYSTEM WITHIN A FEW MONTHS. HE ENDED THE NO-GRADE, OPEN-
ADMISSIONS POLICY, AND BEGAN THE PROCESS OF PURGING
UNQUALIFIED TEACHERS HIRED FOR POLITICAL REASONS DURING
THE HEYDAY OF THE GONCALVIST PERIOD. CARDIA, HOWEVER,
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HAS FAILED TO FLOW THROUGH WITH NEEDED ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

--MINISTER OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM - RUI PENA (CDS):
A SUCCESSFUL LISBON LAWYER, PENA, 38, IS CHAIRMAN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CDS PARLIAMENTARY GROUP. HE WAS IMPRISONED BRIEFLY IN 1975 CHARGED WITH "COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES." HE IS A BROTHER-IN-LAW OF FORMER PSD VICE PRESIDENT RUI MACHETE. MORE A TECHNICIAN AND JURIST THAN A STRATEGIST, HE IS KNOWN AS A JACK-OF-ALL-TRADES WITHIN HIS PARTY.

--MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES - LUIS SAIAS (IND): SAIAS, 54, IS A LISBON LAWYER. LONG INVOLVED IN FISHING COMPANIES, SAIAS WAS THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDUSTRIES AND CANNERIES. HE REPORTEDLY AGREED TO BECOME AGRICULTURE MINISTER UPON THE URGINGS OF PS ASSEMBLY LEADER SALGADO ZENHA, A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND.

--MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY - CARLOS MELANCIA (PS): MELANCIA, 50, WAS SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRY IN THE SIXTH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC COORDINATION IN THE FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. HE IS A QUIET, PRAGMATIC ENGINEER, A METHODOICAL MANAGER WITH EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN THE PRIVATE ENERGY AND METALLURGICAL SECTORS. AS SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRY, HE ATTEMPTED PRINCIPALLY TO RESOLVE THE DIFFICULT FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR'S LARGE COMPANIES (E.G. SETENAVE AND SIDERURGIA NACIONAL) AND TO REESTABLISH A RATIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE WITHIN THE MINISTRY. AS MINISTER, HE WILL LIKELY CONTINUE
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TO STRESS THESE OBJECTIVES. HIS RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. HAVE BEEN RATHER DISTANT, BUT ALWAYS CORRECT.

--MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM - DR. BASILIO ADOLFO DE MENDONCA HORTA DA FRANCA (CDS): HORTA, 35, IS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CDS (THIRD-RANKING POSITION), A POSITION HE WILL NOW GIVE UP. PRIOR TO ENTERING POLITICS, HORTA WAS A LAWYER AND SERVED AS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE PORTUGUESE INDUSTRIAL CONFEDERATION. A DYNAMIC, OUTGOING INDIVIDUAL, HORTA FAVORS REVAMPING THE PORTUGUESE EXPORT PROMOTION EFFORT AND RETURNING WHAT REMAINS OF THE NATIONALIZED TOURIST SECTOR TO PRIVATE HANDS. HE WAS A 1977 IVP GRANTEE.

--MINISTER OF LABOR - MALDONADO GONELHA (PS):

GONELHA, 42, RETAINS THE LABOR POST. HE IS AN INTENSE, HARD-WORKING PERSON WITH A REPUTATION FOR GETTING THINGS DONE. HOWEVER, GONELHA HAS NOT MADE MUCH PROGRESS IN UNDERMINING PCP CONTROL OF THE LABOR UNIONS. HE PARTLY BLAMES THIS ON A LACK OF INTEREST IN LABOR MATTERS ON THE PART OF PARTY SUPERIORS, ESPECIALLY MARIO SOARES. GONELHA HAS BEEN VERY COOPERATIVE WITH EMBASSY PERSONNEL, AND FAVORS CONTINUING AIR PARTICIPANT TRAINING FOR LABOR PERSONNEL IN THE U.S.

--MINISTER OF HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS -

ANTONIO DE FRANCISCO SOUSA GOMES (PS): GOMES, 42, MOVES TO HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS FROM THE MISTRY OF PLANNING. WHILE STILL A MEMBER OF THE ECONOMIC TEAM, HE IS NOW ON THE PERIPHERY. HE HAS CHANGED HIS OUTLOOK CONTINUOUSLY OVER THE PAST FIVE MONTHS, ADOPTING A MORE REALISTIC ATTITUDE TOWARD THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS CRISIS. HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW VICTOR CONSTANCIO'S LEADERSHIP ON THESE ISSUES. GIVEN HIS ENGINEERING BACKGROUND, SOUSA GOMES WILL PROBABLY FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE IN HIS

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NEW POSITION THAN HE WAS DEALING WITH MACRO-ECONOMIC ISSUES.

--MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS - DR. ANTONIO ARNAUT
(PS): CURRENTLY A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, ARNAUT, 42 IS A COIMBRA LAWYER AND THE ASSEMBLY'S TOP RULES EXPERT. OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS HE HAS BEEN ASSIDUOUSLY COURTED BY THE SOVIET AND EAST EUROPEAN EMBASSIES; HE EMBARRASSED HIS PARTY BY LAVISHING EXCESSIVE PRAISE ON HIS HOSTS DURING SEVERAL TRIPS TO EASTERN EUROPE. WITHIN THE PS, HE ENJOYS A GOOD REPUTATION, ALTHOUGH PARTY CONSERVATIVES THINK HE LACKS POLITICAL SOPHISTICATION. ARNAUT WAS RECENTLY ELECTED TO HEAD THE PS COIMBRA DISTRICT
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COMMITTEE AND TO A HIGH POST IN THE PORTUGUESE LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. ARNAUT IS PRESIDENT OF THE PORTUGUESE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION. ARNAUT HAS BEEN FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL TO EMBASSY OFFICERS.

--MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION - MANUEL FERREIRA LIMA (PS): LIMA, 36, A GRADUATE OF THE SUPERIOR INSTITUTE OF AGRONOMY, HAS EXTENSIVE GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE IN PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION. HE WAS SECRETARY OF STATE FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION IN THE PS GOVERNMENT. OUR ASSOCIATION WITH THE FERREIRA LIMA HAS BEEN LIMITED; HE HAS BEEN STAND-OFFISH AND FORMAL. IN MEETINGS WITH USAID OFFICERS, HE HAD ADOPTED A WHAT-CAN-YOU-DO-FOR-ME APPROACH. A MEMBER OF THE PS LEFT WING, FERREIRA LIMA WAS ONE OF THOSE CONSIDERED AS BARRETO'S REPLACEMENT IN THE POLITICALLY SENSITIVE AGRICULTURE MINISTRY.
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SAS ID: 3702326
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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To: STATE
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